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BELDING, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 20, 1918.

LETTERS STILL

LOCAL BOYS WRITE FROM FIELD, TRENCH AND HOSPITAL OF AMERICAN PLAYS IN WAR.

Wm. Bunce writes the following letter to his mother and father in this city. A little matter of a wounded finger isn't going to keep Billy from getting back after the Huns and he undoubtedly took part in the fighting again after he got out of the hospital:

Oct. 8, 1918.

My Dear Folks at Home:

My Dear Folks at Home:

I am feeling fine and dandy. Hope everybody is at home. Mother, it is funny you do not hear from me. I got a card from the Red Cross some time ago saying that you had not heard from me in a long time and that you were worrying about me. I hope you have heard from me by this time. I have been in six pretty hard battles and this is the first scratch I have got I am now in the abospital. I got one of my fingers cut on my right hand; it isn't very bad. I will soon be back with the company in a few days. You see my finger is not very bad. I am writing this letter with it.

I have been exceedingly lucky. The Lord is with me. I am trusting in thim every day. He is the only one that will bring me back home. I think this year will soon be over.

We have driven the Iruns back many miles. I have been on front lines since the 1st of January. I think I have done my ittle bit in this war, but I am wiling to go on. I think this division will get a rest pretty soon, Mother, I think I have received every letter you have written. It seems funny you do not get my letters, You see when I am in the front lines fighting and there you cannot write and when we get back a few miles I an awer right back. I can't write much, some times I write and the company carries the mail around for some time. We can't tell how long we stay in one place. I may be a day and may be weeks. Well, I must close, hoping you get this for you know how I worry about you. I will be home soon. Goodbye with love to all, your loving son,

Wm. H. Bunce, Co. G, 18th Inf., 1st Division, A. E. F.

Lyle Madden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelbacka his falter good naturedly villiam Forbes Emery, Grand Rapids, were large optimistic letter to his parents. Livle takes his falter good naturedly sare. President, Mrs. Emma. Tobin. A william Forbes Emery, Grand Rapids, are: President, Mrs. Emma. Tobin.

one from Hattie, Lulu and Otto, Mrs. Bailey and Dana so you see I will be

pretty busy.

But I have not very much else to do because it has been so muddy that you can't do anything with motorcycles or automobiles and besides I have been laid up on this drive.

I was not quite sick enough for them this time and I got both legs the third time and I got both legs that the mustard gas but am

them this time and I got both legs plastered with mustard gas but am coming along fine now. They are nearly all healed up but they sure were very painful. I had spots on my legs as big as your hand and burned in as deep as a silver dollar is thick, but they are nearly all healed up now, so don't worry a bit and just tell Dad that I had it coming and that I am still in the game and also way am still in the game and also way

When I was down to dinner yesterday I saw Dickerson, the sporting editor of the G. R. News and had a talk with him. He is going to give the boys a write up and I gave him my name and so did Kenneth. So keep watch for it and cut it out and send it in a letter because we don't get names yery good.

In experienced men might be elected as commissioners to the city's expense and regret and we concern with him that none but proved efficient men should be elected to these offices.

The judge's communication is as follows:

Editor Banner-News:

The call for a special election to be held on Dec. 10 in accordance with

held on Dec. 10 in accordance with the provisions and requirements of the five I will send some more souvenirs. They have stopped the fellows sending Boche helmets and stuff like that; they were too much, but may be able to get something through later.

Oh, now I suppose we are not showing up the d— Germans, they are cryging for peace now, the cowards, they dure not stay and fight, they have finally found out the difference between fighting and fooling. (Pretty mad just them.)

I received the pictures you sent and sure enjoyed them and say Dad, what ever you do be a sport and don't borrow any more of that still. Clark caught and besides your casting rod never had a rubber butt handle and all gants guides, Ha. Ha. But I won't tell the rest of the fellows this time but don't try and get by with any more of that stuff, you old son-of-agum. I suppose those trout that you had your picture taken with, Forrest caught.

Well, it is nearly time for supper so will close for this time. I heard from Levi Haskins the other day and hed did not lose his arm, but it always will be stiff. Well from the old bunch that left Ionia with Co. D there are just nine of us left.

Well are old we for this time.

To Held Box Social.

The chartor in accordance with the provisions and nad courding to the new charter in passing the city and letter to the new charter in passing the city and letter to the new charter in passing the city and letter to the municipality for them. Every voter has a voice in the home town paper dressed up to represent the Goddess of Liberty and folks who saw the parade say it was in the him the citizen to the home town paper dressed up to represent the Goddess of Liberty and folks who saw the parade say it was in the him the citizen voter and it is up to them to see that capable men feature and places that city is wearing a business of the city and lock after in lonia is a large business of the city and lock after in lonia is a propose them and say Dad.

The three continues of the city and lock after in lonia is pr

Made Supreme Sacrifice.

Ralph Bush of Grattan township, was in the office the other day and stated that he had recently received a telegram from the war office stating that his son, Alden Bush, had died of wounds received in battle, in a French hospital, on August 1, four days after he received his fatal wound. Mr. Bush had recently received a letter stating that his son had been wounded and supposed that the boy was progressing all right when he received the telegram from the war office telling him of his son having made the supreme sacrifice. Alden Bush was 21 years of age and enlisted last February and was soon overseas in the ruary and was soon overseas in the fighting. He was a brother of Mrs. Kenneth Barton, of the North side, whose husband is also in the army.

Lyle Madden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. W. Madden, writes the following optimistic letter to his parents. Lyle takes his father good naturedly to task for an alleged borrowing of fish to have his picture taken with. Somewhere in France, Sitting in a Large Shell Hole, Oct. 9, 1918.

Dear Mother and Father:

Well, as this is the first day since we have been on this drive that it has not rained or hailed, I will try and answer your letters.

I got four from Mother dated Aug. 26, Sept. 4, 11 and 15, and two from Dad dated Augfl 23 and Sept. 11, also one from Hattie, Lulu and Otto, Mrs.

William Forbes Emery, Grand Rapids.

William Forbes Emery, Grand Rapids.

Rebekah assembly election results are: President, Mrs. Emma Tobin, Calumet; vice president, Lizzie M. Palmer, Lansing; warden, Alma Critchell, Petoskey; marshal, Carrie Bouchard, Cheboygan; conductor, Henrietta Yarrick, Deerfield; inside guardian, Lucy Anderson, Shelby.

URGES CAUTION

EFFICIENT AND EXPERIEN-CED MEN SHOULD BE

The Banner-News is pleased to publish the following letter from Judge Embree B. Lapham, former editor of the Banner, relative to the caution and ahead, I am holding big odds.

Our regiment, the 126th took over 800 prisoners this morning and the Boches are goin so fast we can't commissioners from the 1st of Janu-

Boches are goin so fast we can't hardly keep up.

Poor Lt. Girard got back from the hospital and took command of the company on this drive and was killed the morning of Oct. 5.

When I was down to dinner yester-

it in a letter because we don't get papers very good.

If I get a chance when we get out the provisions and requirements of

well, it is nearly time for supper so will close for this time. I heard from Levi Haskins the other day and he did not lose his arm, but it always will be stiff. Well from the old bunch that left Ionia with Co. D there are just nine of us left.

Will say good bye for this time and Mother for the love of Mike try and have Dad keep his sporting record straight because if he don't when I get home I will have him all mixed up. I am sorry that the garden did not (Continued on Page Eight.)

A Venus Model at Empress Sunday, featuring Makel Normand.

President Asks Thanks be Given that Right Has Prevailed Over Might in Great World War

Washington, Nov. 18 .- President Wilson in a proclamation, has designated Thursday, Nov. 28, as Thanksgiving Day and said this year the American people have special and moving cause to be grateful and rejoice. Complete victory, he said, has brought not only peace, but the confident promise of a new day as well in which "justice shall replace force and jealous intrigue among the nations." The proclamation follows:

THANKSGIVING-1918

By The President of the United States --- A Proclamation

"It has long been our custom to turn in the autumn of the year in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many blessings and mercies to us as a nation. thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many blessings and mercies to us as a nation. This, year we have special and moving cause to be grateful and rejoice. God has in His good pleasure given us peace. It has not come as a mere cessation of arms, a mere relief from the strain and tragedy of war. It has come as a greater triumph of right. Complete victory has brought us, not peace alone, but the confident promise of a new day as well, in which justice shall replace force and jealous intrigue among the nation. Our gallant armies have participated in a triumph which is not marred or strained by another purpose of selfish aggression. In a righteous cause they have won immortal glory and have nobly served their nation in serving mankind. God has, indeed, been gracious. We have cause for rejoicing as it revives an strengthens is us all the best traditions of our national history. A new day shines about us in which our hearts take new courage and look forward with new hope to new and greater duties. new and greater duties.

"While we render thanks for these things, let us not forget to seek the divine guidance in the performance of those duties and divine mercy and forgiveness for all erthat we do we shall strengthen the ties of rors of act and pur friendship and mutual respect upon which we must assist to build the new structure

of peace and good will among the nations.

"Wherefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, the twenty-eighth day of November next, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer and invite the people throughout the land to cease upon that day from their ordinary occupations and in their several homes and places of worship to render thanks to God, the rules of nations.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

States to be affixed. "Done in the District of Columbia this sixteenth day of November, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen; and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

WOODROW WILSON.

"By the President: "ROBERT LANSING," "Secretary of State."

Church of Christ News.

H. E. Curch, the new pastor of the Church of Christ, begins his work here next Sunday. Preaching service at 10:30, followed by the Bible school. It is hoped that we may have a full attendance of the membership and thus show the new minister and his wife that we are with them in the work.

Prayer meeting Thursday evening. Come early for we want to have a rousing chorus rehearsal after the prayer service.

Notice.

One in Belding, as that is the total most speaks of.

We knew mighty well that some day somewhere somebody was going to find out the real worth of our optimistic little barber friend and we're glad to see his worth develop just when his country needed it the most, in the time of war.

Welcome back to the old home town Candy, and we'll be right there to shake your hand when you pass in under the triumphal arch which is going to be placed over Bridge street near the depot.

Dale Klock Home.

Friends of Dale Klock will be pleased to note that he arrived home on Friday evening from the Students' Army Training corps institute at Mt. Pleasant, where he was sericusly sick with the flu and subsequent pneumonia and came near passing in with the great majority. Dale is at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Klock, on a ten day furlough and is getting along nicely on the road to health.

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Will Ward has an announcement in this issue of the Banner-News to the effect that he will engage in the meat market business again

would be allowed to exercise their right to vote as quickly as they are to when that right was given them by the voters of the state of Michigan at the general election which was held on November's last and they will have to register in less than one wently.

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Notice

The next meeting of the Parents'Feachers' club will be held Tuesday,
Nov. 26 at 3:15 p. m. Chairman,
Mrs. Guildemaster. Roll call, favorite quotations. Speaker, Dr. Orr.
Record table discussion. All who are ted, please come. Bertha McMahon, Secretary.

Social Evening and Reception.

There will be a social evening and reception for the Rev. and Mrs. Rooke the new pastor and wife, at the Congregational church on Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all to come out and meet Mr. and Mrs. Rooke and enjoy a social evening.

Donation Day at Schools.

The members of the Hospital board have decided to ask the school children for an apple and potato day. This was entered into with much zest by the pupils last fall. Only one apple and potato or any other kind of vegetable from a family.

Baskets may be left at the different schools Tuesday, Nov. 26. Please do not forget this day.

W. S. S. SALES

MICHIGAN STANDS 40 IN RANK OF STATES-IONIA COUNTY IS FINTH IN COUNTY RANK.

Postmaster W. F. Bricker has called our attention to the fact that there are still a great many of the people of this city and vicinity who though they subscribed for a stated amount of War Savings certificates or Thrift Stamps have not called to make good their pledges and the postmaster is of the opinion that if the people who still owed on these pledges, paid, that Ionia county would be raised considerably in the rank which she now holds among the counties of the state of Michigan and the local committee, being desirous of doing their part in increasing the sale of the stamps, wish that the people would give attention to this matter and go to the posoffice and take up their quota of stamps.

FOR SENDING OF SOLDIERS' PACKAGES

THOSE WHO FAILED TO RECEIVE LABELS FROM BOYS MAY SE-CURE SAME FROM RED CROSS.

Many local people who failed to re-ceive the Christmas labels from their boys over seas will be very glad to learn that even though they have not

learn that even though they have not receive them as yet, that permission has been given to the relatives of soldiers and sailors overseas and they may still send a Christmas package to their boys so that it will reach them in time for the great feast day.

Postmaster Bricker Tuesday morning received notice from the authorities at Washington to the effect that so many of the requests for labels from the men overseas have either been lost or delayed that the government officials were taking cognizance of the fact and would allow the nearest relative of any soldier or sailor

of of Organization, American Expeditionary Forces, a Christmas package. I hereby declare that I am the nearest living relative in the United States of the proposed recipient, that I have not received a label from abroad and should such label be received, it will not be used, and to the best of my knowledge and belief only one Christmas parcel will be sent the proposed recipient."

THREE CENTS THE COPY NURSES WRITE

WOUNDED SOLDIERS

FORMER LOCAL GIRLS NOW IN FRANCE AS RED CROSS NURS-ES SEE MUCH SUFFERING.

Mrs. E. B. Lapham is in receipt of the following letters which Mrs. Mary Cannon recently received from her daughter, Mrs. Clara Widdicomb, a former local girl, who for more than a year past has been engaged as a Red Cross nurse in France:

Red Cross nurse in France:

August 11.

My Dear Mama:

As usual these days I'm tired and it's getting late but I'll send on a little word of love anyway.

We are very busy and I have very little time outside of duty. We evacuated a number of patients this week and I thought I'd get

August 18.—Don't know what I had started to write when I had to stop and now I have a little time I'll begin all over. Teday we are evacuating nearly all patients preparatory to another big convoy. We hate to see the boys go out. The last convoy was a week ago and we were just getting our breath and getting to know them all, but from now on it will be a continuous rush and we will hardly know any of them for we are now an evacuation hospital and the patients will be brought in, fixed up and set farther back. You will never be able to read this. It's bad enough any time but I'm writing with no place to rest my arm. Jean is on night duty so I can't go in my room when she is trying to sleep.

The shoes finally arrived and I was

holds among the counties of the state of Michigan and the local committee, being desirous of doing their part in increasing the sale of the stamps, wish that the people would give attention to this matter and go to the posoffice and take up their quota of stamps.

At the present time the state of Michigan stands No. 40 in the rank of stamps sold, with a total of \$17,533, 104.23. This is a per capita of \$1.04 for every man, woman or child in the state. For sales during October, Michigan rated No. 37, with a total of sales for the month, \$2,331,070.31, or an equal to a sale amounting to 68

to send them on.

Am sorry if you have gone ahead and tried to send things without an order. When I asked you to try the express I thought it would be the only way but since then another decision has been reached and now we may send signed requests for necessary things. It keeps one busy to be posted about things, so many changes.

Back on duty tonight until ten and

WOMEN ARE TO

VOTE AT SPECIAL

ELECTION DEC. 10

ARE TO_HAVE VOICE IN ELECTING FIRST OF CITY'S COMMISSIONERS FOR NEW REGIME.

The ladies hardly thought that they would be allowed to exercise their right to yoth early the voice and then have action to care for it.

The ladies hardly thought that they would be allowed to exercise their right to yoth early the to yoth early the content of the property of the prope

last. We get such good war news all the time and we hope this will be the last one. I doubt if I shall ever see Hugo or any of the boys I know. So far no one I've seen has been in. Often see the name of some Grand Rapids boys in the casualty list, Ralph M. Mueller in last night's paper.

There isn't much to write and I want to send a note to one of my Tommies who was sent to another hospital. He wrote me he was so disappointed not to get across to England for a furlough. Is only 19 and been in service for three years. Just a sweet English boy with rosy cheeks, a bit faded now. a bit faded now. With love for all,

Susan Mary. France, Aug. 29.

My Dear Mama: My Dear Mama:

Well, my Paris trip is off for the present and I won't be much surprised if I don't get there at all.

Will soon be working over time I imagine, though things are very quiet for the present. Was told this morning Gen. Pershig was to be here today but he didn't arrive. One hears all kinds of rumors in the army. Haven't had any mail from home for some time now.

hears all kinds of rumors in the army. Haven't had any mail from home for some time now.

Aug. 30. As usual I only got a start on my letter now I have a little time and I've come out in the woods all by myself and will finish writing. It's so quiet out here and I enjoy getting off by myself. One gets so tired of charte and confusion.

The wind begins to have the sound of autumn and the mornings and evenings are chilly which reminds us that the winter is not far away. How I dread the cold and rain and mud, but it's the boys in the trenches who will suffer and we must not complain. I am very well and that means much. Have had quite a bit of trouble with my feet but that's only to be expected for you have no idea how hard we work when we are really busy. The guns are making a good bit of noise just now but it's the first time I've heard them today.

Jean and I were talking yesterday of how environment affects one. We pay no more attention now to hearing the guns and seeing a "flock" of airplanes going over than we do at home when an auto passes the house and yet we never have been really in the thick of things.

Had a good letter from Ellis Ranney this week and I ought to write to him while we are not rushed but I've done absolutely no writing of late except the family. I'm sending two signed requests for I'm sure the things will weigh too much to put in one package.

I hope we will be home before we need many more things. Will soon be wearing two instead of one service (Continued on Page Eight.)

There's another one of those pop-ular half-night
DANCING PARTIES
in Hubbell Hall Saturday Night.
Hale's Orchestra
EVERYBODY WELCOME